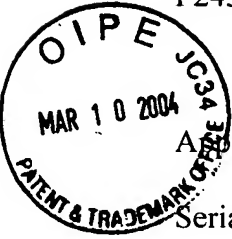


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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants : Hitoshi TANAKA et al.

Group Art Unit : Not Yet Assigned

Serial No : 10/731,474

Examiner : Not Yet Assigned

Filed : December 10, 2003

For : CAM MECHANISM FOR LENS BARREL

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT**

Commissioner for Patents  
PO Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir :

In accordance with the duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. §1.56 and §§1.97-1.98,

Applicants hereby call the following documents to the Examiner's attention:

Japanese Laid-Open Patent Publication No. HEI 6-100708, which was published on December 12, 1994, together with patent family member U.S. Patent No. 4,974,949 to TANAKA, which issued on December 4, 1990;

Japanese Laid-Open Patent Publication No. HEI 6-308363, which was published on November 4, 1994, together with patent family member U.S. Patent No. 5,515,205 to YOKOYAMA et al., which issued on May 7, 1996;

Japanese Laid-Open Patent Publication No. HEI 8-94907, which was published on April 12, 1996, together with patent family member U.S. Patent No. 5,790,901 to NAKAYAMA et al., which issued on August 4, 1998;

Japanese Laid-Open Patent Publication No. HEI 9-90454, which was published on April

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4, 1997, together with an English language translation of the same.

Japanese Laid-Open Patent Publication No. 2000-275518 A, which was published on October 6, 2000, together with patent family member U.S. Patent No. 6,369,955 to ENOMOTO et al., which issued on April 9, 2002;

U.S. Patent No. 6,512,638 to SATO et al., which issued on January 28, 2003;

U.S. Patent No. 6,493,512 to SATO, which issued on December 10, 2002;

U.S. Patent No. 6,456,445 to NOMURA et al., which issued on September 24, 2002;

U.S. Patent Application Publication No. 2002/0135897 to NOMURA et al., which was published on September 26, 2002; and

U.S. Patent Application Publication No. 2003/0210478 to SUZUKI, which was published on November 13, 2003.

Further to the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office's decision to waive the requirement under 37 C.F.R. §1.98 (a)(2)(i), copies of the U.S. patents and U.S. patent application publications are not enclosed herewith. However, if any copies are needed, the Examiner is respectfully requested to contact the undersigned.

Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner consider the above materials and cite the patent documents. Copies of the Japanese patent documents are attached and all of the documents have been listed on the attached PTO-1449 Form. The Examiner is requested to initial the appropriate spaces on the attached PTO-1449 Form and to return a copy of the Form to the Applicants with the next official communication in the present application to confirm consideration of these documents.

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Applicants also call the following co-pending and commonly assigned patent applications to the Examiner's attention:

U.S. Patent Application No. 10/731,473 to TANAKA et al., entitled "Step-Zoom Lens," which was filed on December 10, 2003; and

U.S. Patent Application No. 10/731,475 to NOMURA et al., entitled "Lens Distance-Varying Mechanism, and Step-Zoom Lens Incorporating the Same," which was filed on December 10, 2003.

In accordance with 37 C.F.R. §1.98 (a)(2)(iii), copies of the above-mentioned applications are attached hereto. However, the Examiner is also requested to review the file wrapper of these U.S. patent applications at the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office and the references of record, if any, cited therein.

Should the Examiner have any questions, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the below-listed telephone number.

Respectfully submitted,  
Hitoshi TANAKA

*Walter Boshnick*  
*Reg. No. 44,550*

Bruce H. Bernstein  
Reg. No. 29,027

March 8, 2004  
GREENBLUM & BERNSTEIN, P.L.C.  
1950 Roland Clarke Place  
Reston, VA 20191  
(703) 716-1191

Form PTO-1449

U.S. Department of Commerce  
Patent and Trademark OfficeAtty. Docket No.  
P24359Serial No.  
10/731, 474INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT  
BY APPLICANT

(Use several sheets if necessary)

Applicant  
Hitoshi TANAKA et alFiling Date  
December 10, 2003Group  
Unknown

## U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

EXAMINER INITIAL		DOCUMENT NUMBER							DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUBCLASS	FILING DATE IF APPROPRIATE
		4	9	7	4	9	4	9	12/04/90	TANAKA et al			
		5	5	1	5	2	0	5	05/07/96	YOKOYAMA et al			
		5	7	9	0	9	0	1	08/04/98	NAKAYAMA et al			
		6	3	6	9	9	5	5	04/09/02	ENOMOTO et al			
		6	5	1	2	6	3	8	01/28/03	SATO et al			
		6	4	9	3	5	1	2	12/10/02	SATO et al			
		6	4	5	6	4	4	5	09/24/02	NOMURA et al			
2002	/	0	1	3	5	8	9	7	09/26/02	NOMURA et al			
2003	/	0	2	1	0	4	7	8	11/13/03	SUZUKI et al			

## FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

		DOCUMENT NUMBER							DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS	SUBCLASS	TRANSLATION YES NO	
		6	-	1	0	0	7	0	8	12/12/94	JAPAN			
		6	-	3	0	8	3	6	3	11/04/94	JAPAN			
		8	-	9	4	9	0	7		04/12/96	JAPAN			
		9	-	9	0	4	5	4		04/04/97	JAPAN		X	
200	0	-	2	7	5	5	1	8		10/06/00	JAPAN			

## OTHER DOCUMENTS (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)


EXAMINER

DATE CONSIDERED

\*EXAMINER: Initial if citation considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.